

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 239117
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-01
SSM-03 SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 PA-01
NSAE-00 PM-05 MCT-01 /080 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND
S/PRS - MR. CARTER (INFO)
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA - MR. NEUMANN
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH
NEA/EGY - MR. NEWBERRY
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----047007 050045Z /62

O 042244Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 239117

AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
INFO USCINCEUR
DOD
JCS
CIA
USIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 239117

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - OCTOBER 4

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EX-
CERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR OCTOBER 4, 1977.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 239117

FYI ONLY, SPOKESMAN TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER.

ANNOUNCEMENT: A QUESTION THAT WAS TAKEN AND THEN I'M JUST
GOING TO GIVE YOU A READ-ON YESTERDAY WAS: WILL THE
UNITED STATES-SOVIET TALKS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN RESULT IN
A BILATERAL AGREEMENT OR WILL OTHER STATES THAT BORDER THE
INDIAN OCEAN BE ASKED TO SIGN IT OR GET INTO TALKS AT SOME
STAGE"? THE ANSWER IS THE U.S.-SOVIET TALKS ARE BILATERAL.
THEY DO NOT CONCERN THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF OTHER STATES.
AND FOR THAT REASON OTHER STATES WILL NOT BE ASKED TO
JOIN THE TALKS OR TO SIGN ANY AGREEMENT WHICH MIGHT RESULT.
AS I SAID YESTERDAY, THE U.S. IS CONSULTING WITH ITS
FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN THE AREA AND OUTSIDE THE AREA CON-
CERNING THE COURSE OF THE TALKS, BUT THIS IS IN THE CON-
TEXT OF KEEPING THEM INFORMED AND SEEKING THEIR VIEWS. WE
DO NOT SUGGEST TO ANY STATE THAT THEY JOIN THE TALKS, AND
AT THIS POINT NO STATE HAS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN BE-
COMING A PARTY TO THE U.S.-SOVIET DISCUSSIONS.

TO FORESTALL WITH THE QUESTION THAT WILL NEVER COME, I
WOULD NOT PRECLUDE THAT QUESTION POSSIBLY ARISING NOR AN
ANSWER TO IT. IT'S JUST SIMPLY THAT IT IS NOT IN THE
CONTEXT OF THINGS AS WE SEE THEM NOW.

Q. ISN'T IT A CHANGE IN THE GUIDANCE, IT SEEMS TO ME?

A. I ASKED ABOUT THAT BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE OLD GUIDANCE WAS EITHER VERY FUZZY ON THE QUESTION OR LEFT THE IMPLICATION THAT THERE WOULD BE OTHER PARTICIPATING. I DO RECALL THE PHRASE, HOWEVER, "NO STATE HAS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST." THAT WAS IN THE OLD GUIDANCE.

Q. ISN'T IT MORE OR LESS AN INVITATION THOUGH FOR --

A. AN INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT, YES; AND WE'VE CONSULTED WITH THEM.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 239117

Q. WASN'T THERE A SUGGESTION THOUGH THAT BRITIAN OR FRANCE MIGHT BE WILLING TO JOIN AT A LATER STAGE OR WOULD BE WELCOME TO JOIN AT A LATER STAGE?

A. YES, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WAS IN IT, AND I THINK THAT WHAT THIS PROBABLY MEANS IS NO ONE HAS COME BEATING ON THE DOOR. I WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, WANT TO SPECULATE ON THAT; AND I QUESTION ON THIS GUIDANCE, AND THIS IS THE EXACT CURRENT STATE OF PLAY.

Q. WHAT ARE THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS?

A. THE LEGITIMATE -- ONE WORD -- RIGHTS -- TWO WORDS -- THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS -- ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE PARTICIPANTS TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE THAT WE SAID BEFORE. WE DO NOT INTEND TO TRY TO DEFINE THEM FOR THE PARTIES. WE SIMPLY SUGGEST, HOWEVER, AND I REPEAT, THAT THOSE RIGHTS FALL WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF OTHER RIGHTS AND OTHER NECESSITIES IN THE AREA, WHICH WE ALSO OUTLINED IN THAT STATEMENT -- WHICH INCLUDES SECURITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY FOR ISRAEL AND PEACE, WHICH IS EMBODIED IN TREATIES WHICH MOVED TO FULL NORMAL RELATIONS.

Q. AN INFERENCE HAS BEEN DRAWN BOTH IN ISRAEL AND AMONG PEOPLE HERE THAT ENDORSEMENT OF THE PALESTINIANS' LEGITIMATE RIGHTS MEANS ENDORSEMENT, BY IMPLICATION, OF A PALESTINIAN STATE. IS THAT CORRECT?

A. NO. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I WILL JUST SAY TO YOU NOW ON BACKGROUND, A USELESS DEVICE IN THIS BRIEFING SINCE IT

GOES EVERYWHERE ELSE, THAT ON BACKGROUND, IN FACT, IT IS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 STATE 239117

NOTEWORTHY THAT THE WORDS "LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS," FOR INSTANCE, IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE STATEMENT; IT IS

"LEGITIMATE RIGHTS," AND THAT THAT PHRASEOLOGY DOES NOT CARRY THE CONNOTATION OF ANYTHING MORE THAN WHAT IT SAYS.

Q. WAS "NATIONAL" SUGGESTED BY EITHER SIDE TO HAVE BEEN INCLUDED AT SOME STAGE?

A. FRANKLY, I'M NOT AWARE OF WHAT MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BEEN. I'M JUST SIMPLY NOTING THAT TO DRAW AN INFERENCE FROM A PHRASE "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS," AND MAKING THAT A LEAP INTO NATIONHOOD IS SIMPLY NOT THERE IN THE PHRASE AND I WOULD JUST STEER YOU ALL AWAY FROM IT.

Q. IS THE UNITED STATES IN FAVOR OF ESTABLISHING A PALESTINIAN STATE?

A. THE UNITED STATES HAS EXPRESSED ITSELF AS BEING IN FAVOR OF AN ENTITY OR A HOMELAND; IT HAS SAID REPEATEDLY THAT WHAT FORM THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE IS A MATTER TO BE DEFINED NOT BY THE UNITED STATES OR IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES, BUT BY THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE OF THOSE MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED IN THE AREA, INCLUDING, OF COURSE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

Q. WELL, IF THEY AGREED UPON THERE, WOULD THE UNITED STATES BE IN FAVOR OF THAT?

A. I WON'T SPECULATE ON WHAT HAPPENS OUT OF A CONFERENCE. LET US SIMPLY SAY THAT WE ARE GOING TO SUPPORT WHAT A CONFERENCE OF ALL THE PARTIES PRODUCES. I'M NOT GOING TO SPECULATE ON WHAT THE CONFERENCE MIGHT PRODUCE.

Q. SO FAR, THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ADVOCATED THE PALESTINIAN INTERESTS RATHER THAN RIGHTS. IS THIS A SWITCH OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 06 STATE 239117

POLICY?

A. NO. AGAIN, I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO A SEMANTIC DISCUSSION OF THIS BECAUSE A QUESTION OF INTEREST OR RIGHTS HAS TO BE VIEWED IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT, HAS TO BE VIEWED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WORD "LEGITIMATE" AS WELL AS "RIGHTS" OR "INTERESTS" AND HAS TO BE DEFINED ULTIMATELY NOT BY THE UNITED STATES OR THE SOVIET UNION, BUT BY THE PARTIES IN THE AREA. I HAVE DONE THREE READ-OUTS ACTUALLY ON THAT, AND I WOULD BE HAPPY TO GO FIND THAT FINE, TORTUOUS PHRASE FOR YOU THAT I'VE USED BEFORE.

Q. THE UNITED STATES PRESS REPORTED YESTERDAY THAT DAYAN

MET WITH 24 OFFICIALS IN ISRAELI CONSULATES AROUND THE COUNTRY TO MAP OUT A STRATEGY TO STOP THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM. NOW, I CAN'T REALLY THINK OF ANY OTHER INSTANCE WHEN A FOREIGN OFFICIAL INVITED BY OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD COME HERE AND ORGANIZE IN THAT FASHION AND THERE WOULD NOT BE SOME KIND OF PROTEST FROM OUR GOVERNMENT. YOUR ANSWER SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHAT THE EUROPEAN PRESS HAS REPORTED OF DAYAN'S ACTIVITIES IN REGARD TO PEACE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE SOUTHERN LEBANESE PEACE WAS WORKED OUT, OF COURSE, HERE, AS WE KNOW; THAT DINITZ CALLED DAYAN AND DAYAN SAID NOT TO GO WITH IT; AND THAT DINITZ THEN CONTACTED THE ISRAELI CABINET WHICH SAID, "YES, WE WANT THIS KIND OF SETTLEMENT PACKAGE AT THIS TIME." IN VIEW OF THE ROLE THAT DAYAN SEEMS TO BE PLAYING, IS THE GOVERNMENT GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT HIS OPEN INTERFERENCE IN OUR AMERICAN PROCESS, THE POLITICAL PROCESS IN THIS COUNTRY?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 07 STATE 239117

A. FIRST, INsofar AS WHAT HIS ACTIVITIES MAY HAVE BEEN, I'M IN NO POSITION TO COMMENT ON THEM BECAUSE WHILE PRESS REPORTS REPORT A NUMBER OF THINGS, I CANNOT GET INTO THE QUESTION OF THAT KIND OF ACTIVITY. INsofar AS WHAT, REPORTEDLY, HE MAY HAVE DONE WITH ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THAT IS WITHIN HIS PROVINCE AND I SUGGEST YOU ASK HIM. I DON'T KNOW. I WON'T REALLY SPECULATE ON IT, BUT IT WON'T BE THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF DIPLOMACY THAT THE OFFICIAL POLICY OF A GOVERNMENT WAS EXPLAINED IN FULL TO ITS REPRESENTATIVES SO THAT THEY MIGHT MAKE IT PUBLICLY EVIDENT.

Q. EXCUSE ME, BUT HE IS ALSO MEETING WITH RABBI SHINDLER LATER THIS WEEK, AND I BELIEVE THEY ARE OPENLY STATING THAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE COORDINATING ACTIVITIES TO DISRUPT THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLANS.

A. WELL, AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE A RIGHT TO OPPOSE, SUPPORT OR BE NEUTRAL ABOUT ANY POLICY OF THIS GOVERNMENT, AND IF THOSE HAPPEN TO COINCIDE WITH SOMEBODY ELSE'S, THEY HAPPEN TO COINCIDE. I WOULDN'T SUGGEST THAT ANY AMERICAN HAS TO ENDORSE WHOLEHEARTEDLY WHAT ARE OBVIOUSLY CORRECT AND GOOD POLICIES ENUNCIATED BY THIS ADMINISTRATION. THAT'S JUST A GIVEN.

Q. AT WHAT POINT DOES AN AMERICAN CITIZEN VIOLATE THE LOGAN ACT?

A. MY FRIEND, I WAS AFRAID SOMEBODY WOULD TAKE ME ALONG THAT ONE IF I GOT TOO CUTE. THE LOGAN ACT HAS TO DO WITH THE ACTIVITIES, AS I UNDERSTAND IT OF SOMEONE WHO BECOMES

AN AGENT -- IS THAT RIGHT?

Q. PRIVATE CITIZEN ENTERING INTO DIPLOMATIC DISCOURSE WITH

A. THAT'S RIGHT, AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THAT GOVERNMENT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 08 STATE 239117

I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T HAVE THAT IN FRONT OF ME. I'LL
GO READ THE LOGAN ACT. THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD HAVE DONE.

CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE239117
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/P:REUNDELAND:DP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770362-0479
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197710108/baaaetxk.tel
Line Count: 288
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6a99c924-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 753499
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - OCTOBER 4
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PFOR, SOPN
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a99c924-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009